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THE 4-H CLUB GIRL HAS MANY INTERESTS

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A radio talk by Carolyn Matthews, 4-H club girl, Tippecanoe County, Indiana, delivered in the 4-H club program, National Farm and Home Hour, Saturday, June 2, 1934, and broadcast by a network of 58 associate NBC radio stations.

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Hello 4-H girls of America: -- -- I bring you the best wishes of Indiana 4-H girls. I greatly appreciate this opportunity of speaking to you and consider it a happy climax in my club career.

I am 18 years old and am beginning my tenth year of 4-H work. I started when I was nine, because the work appealed to me, even at that age. Any girl can find many interesting things to do as a member of a 4-H club. When I recall my experiences for the past nine years many pleasant memories return and I rejoice over the happy fact that my summers have been spent so happily and profitably.

I have been a member of the Jolly Girls' Club, Perry Township, Tippecanoe county, all of my ten years. Our club of nineteen members has been guided by splendid leaders and as a member of this club I express thanks to them, especially Miss Ann Kerkhove who was our leader for six years, for making our work so interesting.

Is it any wonder why girls are interested in 4-H work? We are offered so many practical and appealing projects that it simply isn't possible to be content to carry one project as our summer's work, but the problem is where to stop in selecting our projects. There are projects for the outdoor girl as well as her indoor sister. I have completed projects in clothing, baking, canning, food preparation and junior leadership. Surely we are offered a wide range of projects and I'm sure there isn't a farm girl in America who could not find something to interest her.

Our club work isn't all work you know, for we play and sing and have many fine contests in which to compete. We have our judging contests, demonstration contests and the final exhibit of our work in our county and State. Here we see the fulfillment of our club motto, - "To Make the Best Better" truly exemplified. Also we learn to be good sports and rejoice that the best has won.

I have had the privilege of participating in many contests and have profited by my contact with other boys and girls from over my own state in many ways for we are taught to play the game squarely. We are offered many fine trips and awards for our best efforts. These help to make our work more interesting and worthwhile. I have attended our State Junior Leadership school and the State Fair school for girls both as awards for my 4-H work. I wish I could tell you just how much these trips have meant to me. It was wonderful to associate and work with so many fine girls and to have such inspiring teachers and leaders as we had at these schools. In my memory book of 4-H experiences I have marked these my most joyful, useful and profitable.

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Club work has trained me to be useful in my community and when I am asked to conduct games or a meeting at school or any social gathering I rely upon my club experience and saved the embarrassment of not knowing what to do. I expect this training to help me all through life for there are many occasions for organized work and always a need for leaders. In fact 4-H work has been a big part of my education thus far.

My club work has taught me primarily to work and save, although it has also showed me how to play and use leisure time wisely. Club work teaches girls how to meet together, work together, play together; to cooperate and achieve. It develops a happy, useful girlhood and a love for home and the art of home-making. It has helped me to get more joy out of living; to be skillful in my work; to be useful to my community and to be kind, true and loyal to all.

I hope 4-H club work, which has been of so much interest to me for the past ten years will likewise be of interest to many of my listeners.

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